

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8-14 are currently pending in this application; Claim 7 having been canceled; and Claims 1-6 and 8-14 having been amended.

In the outstanding Office Action, multiple dependent Claims 5-7 and 11-14 were objected to for depending from another multiple dependent claim, and Claims 5-7 and 11-14 were not examined on the merits; Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; and Claims 1-4 and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Ikeda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,204,881, hereinafter Ikeda).

In response to the objection to Claims 5-7 and 11-14, multiple dependent Claims 5-7 and 11-14 are amended to no longer depend from another multiple dependent claim.

Applicant respectfully requests that Claims 5-7 and 11-14 be examined on the merits.

In response to the rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, Applicant respectfully submits that “substantially equal” is not indefinite. M.P.E.P. §2173.05(b) states that “substantially equal” may be definite if one of ordinary skill in the art would know what was meant by “substantially equal.” The Specification states “...and the value K will be chosen so that it is as close as possible to the value of the dynamic range D1 of the first channel.” Thus, in light of the specification, a person of ordinary skill in the art would know what is meant by “substantially equal.” Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection based on 35 U.S.C §112 is traversed.

Amended Claim 1 is directed toward a device to analyze or reconstruct a signal from a light source including a means for separating the signal into at least two input signals. There are at least two channels respectively possessing a gain and a dynamic range. The channels are each configured to have a converter tube, at least one sensor, and to generate an output

signal with a first amplitude and second amplitude. There is a device configured to process the output signals, wherein the device configured to process includes a memory unit configured to store at least one of the first amplitude and second amplitude of the output signals when one of the output signals is below a threshold value, and a determination unit configured to determine an amplitude of the signal from a light source. The converter tubes are configured to convert the input signal into an electron beam that impacts a screen and the sensor is configured to sense an image on the screen and generate the output signal. The configuration of Claims 1 allows for the analysis of a light signal with a wide dynamic range of amplitude.¹

With respect to the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), Applicant has amended claims to overcome the outstanding grounds of rejection. The amendments to the claims are largely cosmetic and were made to conform to U.S. claim drafting practice. Claim 1 was amended to recite “said channels each configured to have a converter tube...said converter tubes are configured to convert the input signal into an electron beam that illuminates a screen and said sensor is configured to sense an image on the screen and generate the output signal.” Support for the amendment to Claim 1 is found in Figs. 1 and 2A, for example, and therefore, no new matter is added. Applicant respectfully submits that Ikeda does not teach or suggest a converter tube as recited in Claim 1.

On the contrary, Ikeda teaches using a charge coupled device (CCD),² which uses light sensitivity to convert a light signal into an analog electrical signal. The CCD of Ikeda does not suggest the claimed “said converter tubes are configured to convert the input signal into an electron beam that illuminates a screen and said sensor is configured to sense an image on the screen and generate the output signal.”

¹ Specification, p. 3, lines 1-2.

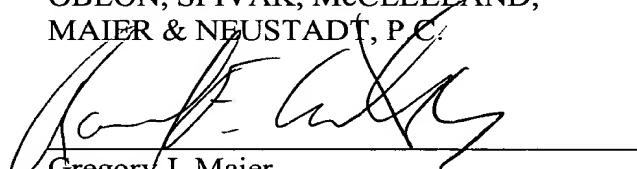
² Ikeda, Fig. 4 and Col. 7, lines 53-54.

In view of the above-noted distinction, Applicant respectfully submits that that independent Claim 1 (and its dependent Claims 2-6) patentably distinguish over Ikeda. Claim 8 is similar to Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 8 (and its dependent Claims 9-14) patentably distinguish over Ikeda.

Consequently, in view of the above amendments and comments, it is respectfully submitted that the outstanding rejection is traversed and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet